



Protecting and Restoring  
Our Waters:

Legislative Task Force on  
Water Quality  
June 12, 2019  
Mauston WI



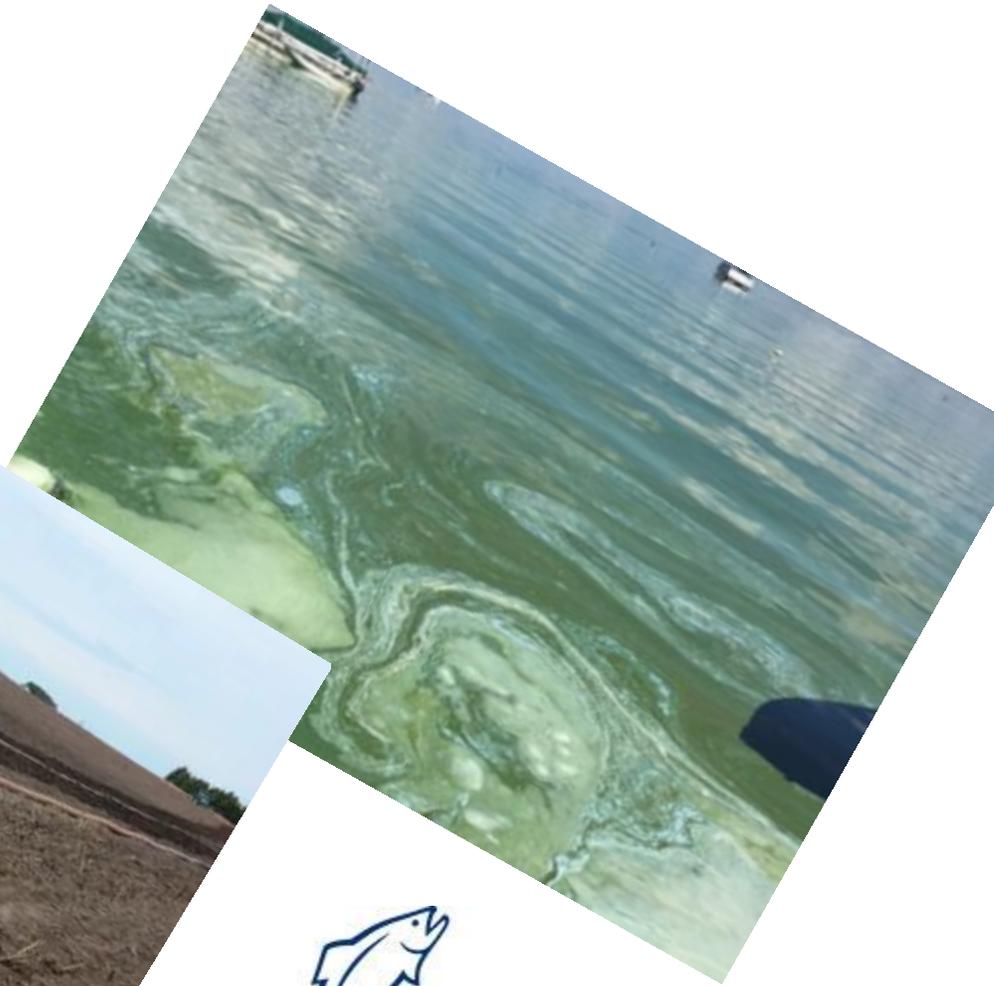


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Restoration Effort

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Crucial to protect groundwater and surface water quality



## TROUT UNLIMITED'S MISSION:

Preserve, Protect and Restore America's coldwater resources

300,000 members and supporters nationally

In Wisconsin:

5,500 members

21 chapters across the state



# DRIFTLESS AREA RESTORATION EFFORT (DARE)

Begun in 2004 by volunteers across region

Endorsed by all four Driftless State governors and USDA

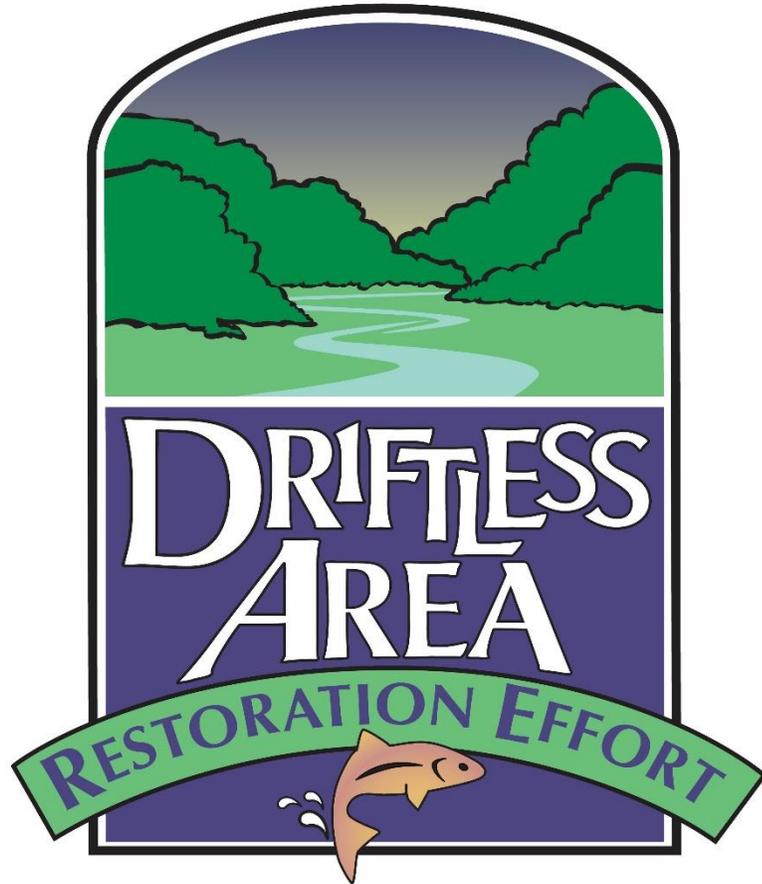
Goals:

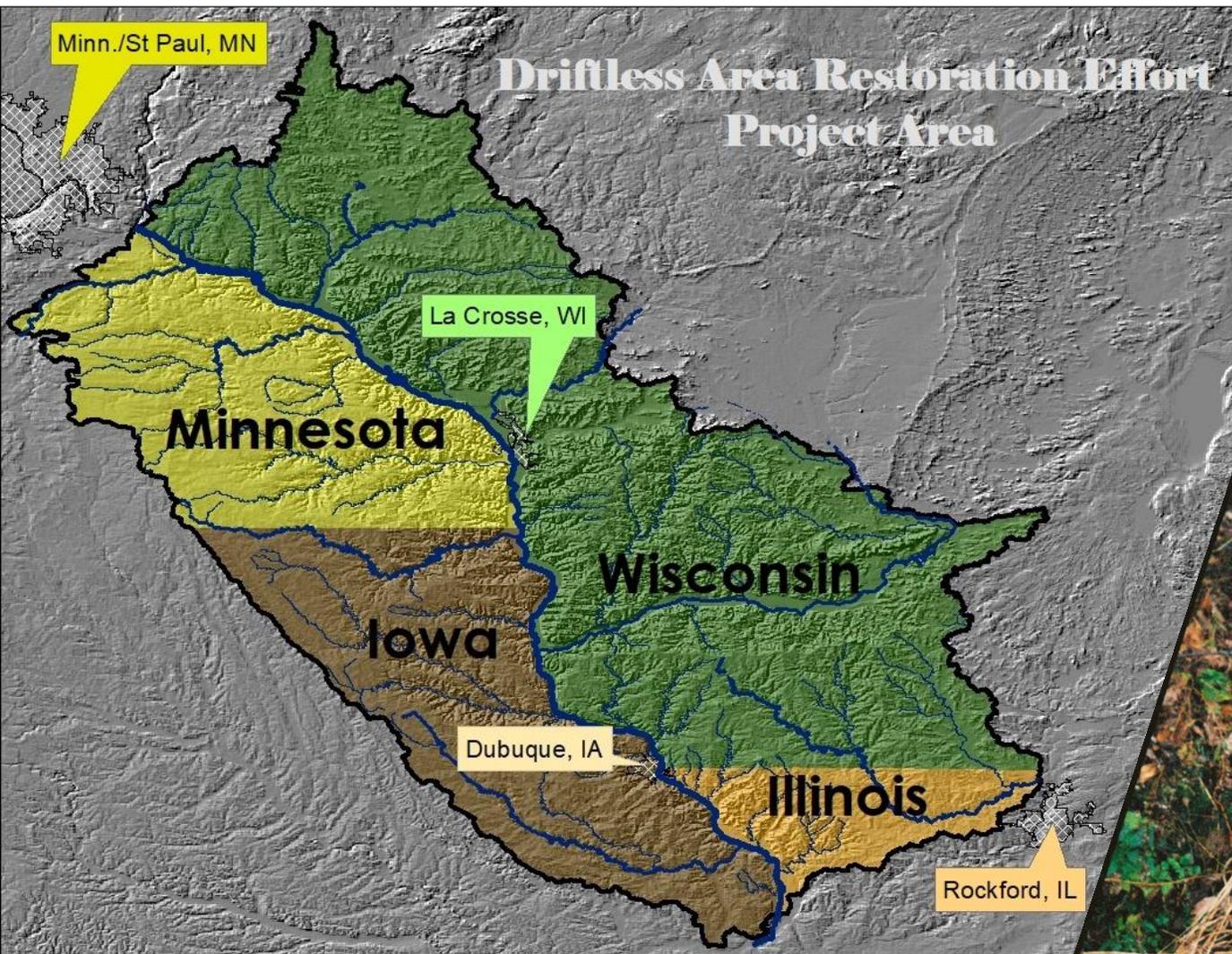
Ramp up restoration capacity

Find larger funding sources

Engage local communities &

Expand public awareness of resource





6,000 miles of coldwater streams





(Both) Danuser Valley, Montana,  
Buffalo County



# Stream Days: Communities come out





Economic Impact: \$1 billion/year



Will Westby change its mascot?



# FLOODING AND EROSION Over 125 years

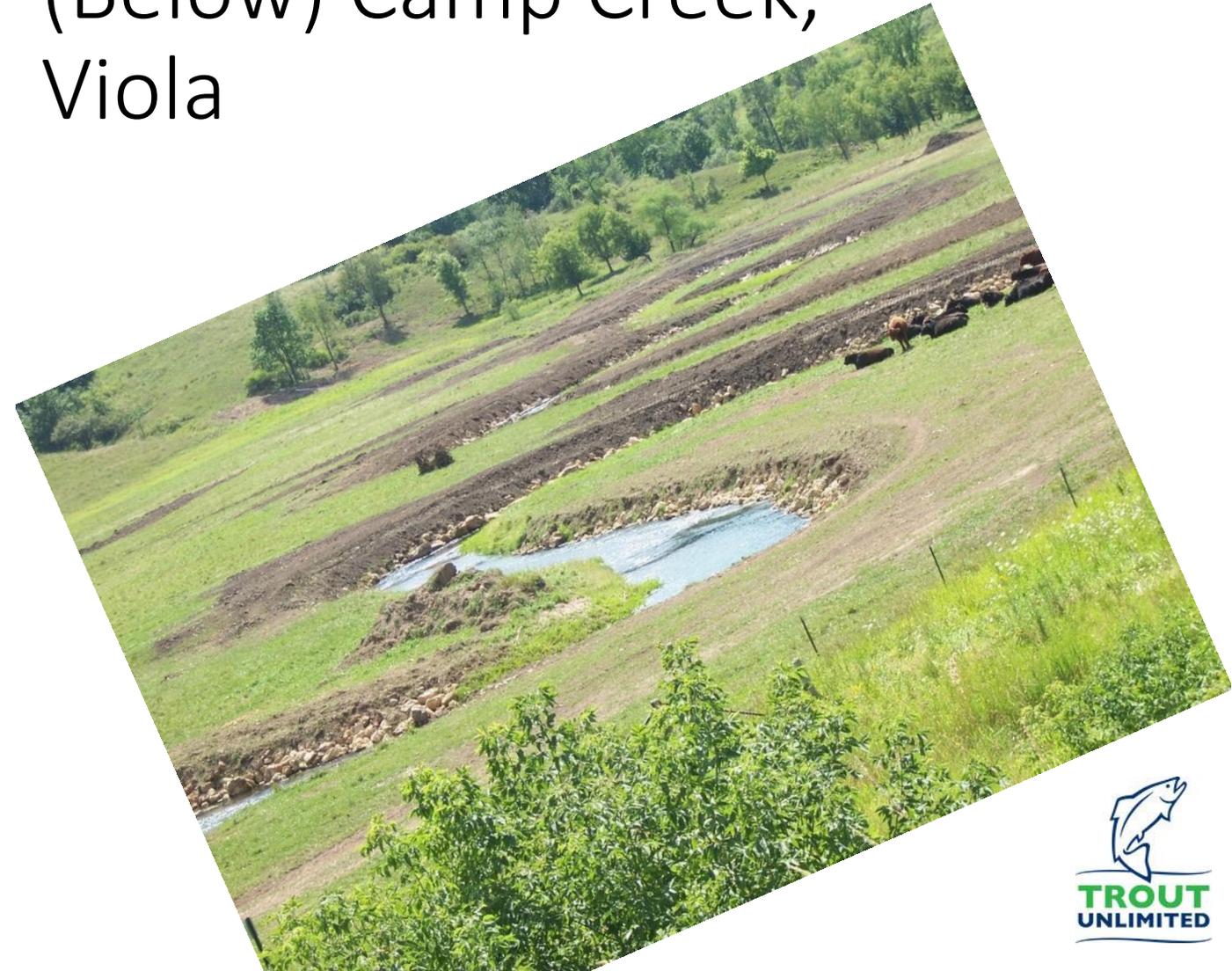








(Left) Buffers along  
Swinns Valley, Arcadia  
(Below) Camp Creek,  
Viola



# The Project Upshot? Multiple impacts

**Reduced soil loss and nutrient runoff**

**Improved water quality**

**High-quality habitat for fish and multiple other species**

**Land available for pasture or crops nearby  
(with reduced runoff impacts)**

**Ensured public fishing access**

**Project funds spent locally**

**More dollars come into local economy**



# HAPPY LANDOWNERS--Mostly



Hay Creek,  
Red Wing, MN





High Capacity Wells:

Assess Cumulative Impacts

Periodic Review for changed conditions



# Phosphorus/pollution trading credit (Sparta WWTP? Beaver Creek, Sparta WI)



# Blue River, Iowa County

(Right) Banks before 2017 work



(Left) Banks after 2017 work



Blue River Restoration impacts: 16 years  
22 Projects, nearly 20 miles of work  
\$1.65 million raised so far

Soil Loss Reduction: 5,500 tons/year kept in place  
(with 2019-20 projects, 7,000 tons/year)

Pictured project alone:

Soil Loss Reduction: 170 tons/year

Phosphorus Reduction: 120 lbs/year





Rainbows, Root River Valley  
Phalen, MN





Thank you-

Questions?

Photo:  
Jeff  
Green

